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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Mr. President, may I make one submission? In view of the fact that this is the last day and there are a large number of questions, will you be good enough to extend the question time? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection, but will not the House be anxious to consider the report of the Mettur-Project Deputation ? "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" About 15 minutes more, Sir. Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar who is in charge of the resolution says he has no objection to the extension of time."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Has the hon. the Leader of the House any objection to the question time being extended by 15 minutes ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir, if it is found necessary."

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Agriculture

Co-operation of the Agricultural department with the Chingleput District Board.

* 801 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the observation, on page 35 of the Administration Report for 1927–28 by the Chingleput District Board, under the heading 'Co-ordination of activities' that the Agricultural department was indifferent and did not co-operate with the District Board in their work of rural reconstruction ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Agricultural department did not co-operate with the District Board in their rural reconstruction work ;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the District Board suffered on account of the indifference of the Agricultural department ;

(d) if answer to (b) be in the affirmative why the Agricultural department did not choose to co-operate with the District Board ;

(e) the matters in which the Chingleput District Board sought the co-operation of the Agricultural department, and how far the department complied with the request of the District Board ; and

(f) whether the advice and co-operation of the Agricultural department were sought for by the Chingleput District Board in the matter of the introduction of vocational classes in agriculture and an agricultural farm in the District Board High School, Poonamallee, and how far the Agricultural department co-operated with the District Board ?

A —(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) No ; the Agricultural department endeavoured to collaborate as far as their limited staff permitted but much could not be done because the President of the Board did not try to meet the views of the Agricultural department as to how co-operation between the department and the Board could be effected.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

(d) Does not arise

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(e) A copy of letter [a] dated 12th September 1928 from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, IV Circle, to the Director of Agriculture is appended for information.

(f) The President appears to have sought the advice of the Director of Agriculture regarding a syllabus which was drawn up for the teaching of nature study in secondary schools under the control of the Board. All the necessary advice and help were given.

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar :—"May I know from the hon. the Development Minister, in what respect the views of the President of the Board differed from those of the Agricultural department, with respect to answer (b)?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar :—"Is it not a fact that the President complained that work has suffered owing to non-co-operation?"

The hon Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"That is what we see from the report."

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar :—"Has the Government examined the schemes of rural reconstruction inaugurated by the Chingleput District Board?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"Not yet, Sir."

Proceedings of the Agricultural Conference.

*802 Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government are in receipt of the proceedings of the Agricultural Conference held at Simla in October 1928; and if so, whether Government will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House; and

(b) whether Government have arrived at any decisions regarding the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, and if so, what those decisions are?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to question No. 681.

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—"Will the Government be pleased to place on the table its proceedings?"

The hon. Mr. M R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"The hon. Member probably means the proceedings of the Agricultural Conference held at Simla. That has to be considered."

Co-operative Societies

Recommendations of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies on the report of the Townshend Committee.

*803 Q.—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received the recommendations of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies on the report of the Townshend Committee on Co-operation;

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 522–525 infra.